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ato, margine integerrima vel obtuse dentata; spicula masculina rotunda; colore rufo-fusco.

On trees; Salem, Oregon, *E. Hall*.

Remarkable for the usually entire (at the apex) innermost involucre. Frequently two or more capsules are successively matured in the same perianth. The species most nearly resembles *F. Bolanderi*, Aust.; but that is smaller and of a fuscous color, with shorter stems, more imbricated leaves and a much more compressed auricle, upper lobe of the involucre leaves broader, the lower one narrower and acute or acutish at the apex, innermost amphigastria of the involucre acutely 2 (-4) toothed at the apex, male spike ovate-oblong, &c.

Size and general habit about as in *F. inflata*, Gott, *F. Sullivanti*, Aust., and *F. Oakesiana*, Aust.; however, among other points of difference, none of these have entire involucre amphigastria; nor do any of them have the tooth on the margin of the involucre leaves situated above the middle of the lower lobe (as in both *F. Hallii* and *F. Bolanderi*).

13. *Rhossalanthus mnioides*, nov. gen. et spec. Lindb. in litt. Aug., 1874.—The above genus is founded upon specimens collected in Japan, by the N. Pac. Expl. Expd., under Com. Rodgers, and recently sent by me to Dr. Lindberg. He reports it as being a very distinct new genus, allied to *Scalix*, B. Gr. (*Haplomitrium*, Nees).—Stems erect (always?) about one inch high, rootless, flattish, and aneura-like but thick and solid. Leaves roundish, lax, decurrent, wavy, or contorted; the lower small, distant; the upper much larger and becoming crowded at the apex into a sort of cup-like involucre. Small, oval, naked antheridia (apparently tubers), are borne on the base of the innermost whorl of leaves on the inside; also occasionally in the axils of other of the upper leaves. Fruit not seen.

14. *Thallocarpus*. *Cryptocarpus*, nov. gen. Aust. in Proc. Phila. Acad. for Mar., 1869, p. 231.

*Thallocarpus Curtisii*. *Cryptocarpus Curtisii*, Aust. l. c.—According to Dr. Lindberg in a recent letter, there are amongst the *Chenopodiaceæ* a *Cryptocarpus*, H. B. K.; and among the *Musci* (*Orthotrichæ*) also a *Cryptocarpus*, D. M.; wherefore the above change. The plant evidently belongs, with *Sphærocarpus* (its nearest ally), to the *Jungermaniaceæ*.

§ 17. Publications Received.—1. *Notice biographique sur Charles-Frédéric Meissner*, par M. Alph. de Candolle. Extrait du Bulletin de la Société botanique de France, November, 1874. Dr. Gray, in his notice of Meissner in the BULLETIN for June, 1874, says: "For the details of the life of this excellent botanist and estimable man we must wait until the tributes to his memory arrive, which his associates in his native Switzerland and in the chief centres of science in Europe are sure to offer." M. de Candolle makes these words of Dr. Gray the occasion of the present notice. Meissner (originally Meissner) was born at Berne, November 1st, 1800. He became Professor of Medicine in the University of Basle in 1828, but in 1830 changed the chair of medicine for that of botany, which he held till 1866, when infirmities obliged him to retire. M. de Candolle bears testimony to the conscientiousness of his work, and his untiring diligence." His

manuscripts faithfully represented his manner of working. Regularity, order, finish in details were carried in them to a most unusual degree. The writing, always perfectly plain, read like print; a curious example of the harmony which is said often to exist between the manner of writing and the character of a person." Meissner was fond of music, of literature, and of friendly intercourse, and was of that kind and considerate character which the writer emphasizes by using the English word *gentleman*. A list of Meissner's writings is given, and an account of the fate of his library and herbarium. In reference to the transfer of the latter to Columbia College, the illustrious author gives a kindly hint to us: "The Torrey Botanical Club meet there; consequently the herbarium has fallen into good hands and will certainly be utilized.—2. *Zur Kenntnis einiger Lycpodinen*, von F. Hegelmaier, Tübingen, July, 1874.—3. *Zur Entwicklungsgeschichte monokotyledoner Keime nebst Bemerkungen über die Bildung der Samendeckel*, von E. Hegelmaier. Mit Tafeln. From the Botanische Zeitung, Nos. 39—44, 1874.

§ 18. **Rhus versus Cypripedium.**—None of our Cypripediums are poisonous plants, applied either externally or internally. They are much employed by Eclectic Physicians of this country, and, though tons of these plants are annually brought to this market to be manufactured into Extract, Tincture, or "Cypripedin," I have yet to be informed of the first case of poisoning, the result of handling the fresh plant or otherwise.

I am very susceptible to the effects of *Rhus*, even from contact of the stems in winter or when quite dry. Others are liable to be poisoned from the emanations of the plant at long distances without coming into contact with it. Some others still have a periodical return of the symptoms of such poisoning recurring for a number of years thereafter.

R. E. KUNZE, M.D.

[We have, ourselves, known cases of the periodical return of the *Rhus* irritation in persons who had handled the plant when brought into the city, but who avoided doing so a second time, and were not likely to go where it grew.—Eps.]

§ 19. **Errata.**—p. 15, l. 5, for "sub-order" read "sub-genus": l. 6, for *Chanactis* read *Chenactis*. In the list of Mr. Paine's Palestine plants, *Habenaria tridentata*, Scopoli, should doubtless read *Orchis tridentata*, Scopoli. As regards the missing pages we intend to supply them hereafter.

## § 20.

### A MARCH RAMBLE.

Let us search the brown woods ere the March winds are laid,  
Ere the flower-buds swell, and the leaves cast a shade.  
To the lover of nature they ever display  
Such treasures as well for the seeking repay;  
And now, though so dreary and lifeless they seem,  
We shall find that with myriad beauties they teem.  
Where the shadows lie deepest, the frost lingers yet,  
And out to the meadows he steals at sunset;  
But sooner each morn the sun puts him to flight,  
And quickly unbinds what he bound in the night.  
On north hill-sides the ice-bearded cliffs are yet dripping,  
And sunbeams from lingering snow-banks are sipping.